

**This is a compilation of the written comments received from residents at the first Winchfield Neighbourhood Development Plan Revision Community Engagement Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at Winchfield Village Hall.**

### **Our Vision**

Yes – perfect!

Fully agree. Perhaps add that we provide a valuable rural leisure resource for Fleet, Hook, Hartley Wintney and Odiham

New housing would need to be affordable to young families

Absolutely

Very good. One thing to bear in mind is that in the 2011 census there were only 664 residents, Shapley Heath would mean 14,000

Ideal description! Should not change too much in 2037. Roads must be kept with their trees, as now

Think this fairly depicts the ethos of the village as it stands and wouldn't want that to change

My wife and I regularly cycle through this area and enjoy my detour past the pond and new housing

Absolutely spot on

Yes – rules space is critical

Yes, it does seem like a village I would love to live in in 2037. However, I hope affordable and social housing will be included

Yes – that describes the Winchfield I would like to be here in 2037

Yes

Really good points

Yes, a good, balanced description which summarises life in Winchfield in 2037 well

Yes! We would definitely like

A perfect description of the environment we all would like to keep that way!

Yes

Yes! Totally agree!

Totally agree – any other way will destroy Winchfield and turn it into a town. We moved here for the countryside and peace

Yes a very good description how it should stay

Yes, mental health and physical activities Winchfield has to offer for the 2037 vision

All agreed! And wish to maintain its essential character as at 2021

Mention that Winchfield is a doomsday settlement which adds to its historical importance?

I would like to see the word accessible in your second paragraph

Very happy with this

Happy with this

Yes wonderful. I see Winchfield as a green lung for us and surrounding villages that are not so fortunate. Please keep it this way!

Sounds like where I want to live

Yes I agree!

I agree with vision. Our narrow and quiet lanes are already overused and in poor repair. They are not safe for cyclists or pedestrians. Growth/expansion could make this worse

### **Draft Objectives**

Yes x 9!!

Agree but not the thought of so many cars – if new development goes ahead! – Pollution – climate change

With as many as nine objectives, do they all have equal weighting/priority?

How do we achieve number seven? Versus the others?

I agree 100%

Yes I agree

Agree with the above objectives

Agree

I agree with the objectives but they could mean little if plans to develop go ahead! Traffic management through the narrow lanes that could not cope with increased traffic!!!

Yes – the objectives are fine by me

Agree

Agree, but should also provide green lung for urban neighbours, particularly Fleet

Prevent fly tipping and promote sensible waste disposal

Agree totally

Happy with this

I agree – it is a village and not a town

Sounds good to me

Totally agree!

Here to support

We agree!

No mention (so far) of roads and cars – traffic increasing monthly now, what will happen in the future to maintain this “

Rural "feel!

Suggest – to maintain the rural character of the area as a definitive asset to all heart residents

-to prevent overdevelopment which would erode the above

Is the word “rural "missing in number two?

Yes agree

Totally agree -

Pull together to protect our green space

To achieve point number 4 you need to achieve point number 5 - our agricultural heritage is disappearing too fast

All the above objectives are correct in keeping a peaceful village

### **Our Natural Environment**

My observation of HDC is that they are ranked amongst one of the worst performing councils for environmental policies and delivery! What is a green grid, so for the only agenda we see being pushed is one of ecological vandalism of ancient woodland and green space – 86% of agricultural land in the area is owned/optioned by developers! Green starts when you have a Brownfield and infill agenda first. Not concrete over and build skate parks and pathways as a platitude to the environment. We need to protect our hedgerows not tear them down for the vanity of SHGV.

Do not know what a “green grid” is. During Covid Winchfield has been discovered by many, you only have to look at the can now car park, by sharing – don't spoil it

Better management needs to be taken for the canal car park due to the huge amount of visitors, blocking the singletrack roads adjacent

I moved to Winchfield to be in a rural community

By the nature of increasing footfall, there'll be more maintenance and depends on how respectful our new visitors are – so yes a concern

Would have welcomed more info on the green grid. I agree with the question, it is a significant concern requiring a balancing act on both sides

I agree – building on it is crazy – when it's gone, it's gone!

Many fleet residents have discovered Winchfield, but it doubt they associate it with Shapley Heath!

Yes, but in a controlled way. Traffic, litter, parking issues are increasing

Agreed, but a balance needs to be struck on sharing versus too much access equals more traffic/pollution etc

There is a danger of being overrun by water sports, cyclists, dog walkers

We already have a natural green grid – of trees and woodland

Caring for the environment is key – but lanes often flood, cars often speed and cyclists often appear around the corner on the wrong side of the road. Many things to consider

We should be open to new initiatives and we should definitely “share” (not quite the right term)

It would be a very good thing for this area of Odiham common was attached to the adjacent green spaces e.g. Hitches Lane country Park

I don't trust HDC's green grid. I worry this will be used as a basis for protecting green space post Shapley Heath!

What's a green grid? A series of SANGs/parks?

Agreed

“Sharing our village” is commendable, but be conscious of being “taken over” by strangers/visitors

We must share what we are lucky to have. Sharing is caring!

Would rather keep it to ourselves we are not a country Park

Promote the work on the canal, cherish it and support its maintenance

We have to be careful that we don't become swamped with visitors. I realise that lockdowns are an extreme situation, but the pressure on the canal area, from walkers and vehicles, has been extreme

If Shapley Heath is being built so close to the canal like the plans show, the countryside and natural environment is going to be impacted significantly!

Don't trust green grid – code for housing with some parks and lakes. We are green as we are. We don't need any synthetic green grid

HDC do not promote a green grid – Shapley!

The accessibility of both in Winchfield is very poor. Wide gates are what I need not styles or kissing gates

No need to change what we already have clear

We already have this – please don't destroy it for us and others

### **Trees and Hedgerows**

They have declared an emergency then invest £thousands to plan to rip 80% of them out around Winchfield! Hollow statement no objectives or actions that demonstrate their intent. 10,000 is Fleet

New Town and the death knell of our village. Build small carefully designed houses not “toytown” villages! 10,000 houses do not support the fact we've lost 60% of our hedgerows

Climate change is a red herring

Our trees and wildlife wonderful – we need to cherish them not destroy them. Does Hart DC actually believe there is a climate emergency given their obsession with developing Shapley Heath? Hollow words pondering to their admirers

With ash dieback, sudden oak death, Dutch elm disease, we need to protect what we have and plant more

Not sure it's climate change as key issue. Protecting what we have is key

Our trees should be protected, they enhance the countryside. Likewise, woodlands and hedgerows should remain, restored. Once they are gone they are gone

Yes I value woodlands and hedgerows and will support

Yes, value all the woodlands for walking, dogs and local habitats for animals

The trees around the canal block the M3 sound and give acoustic value and the overall Greenery/hedgerows are all part of the “country feel”

Trees and hedgerows should be protected – but they also need care and maintenance – which is often not very visible

Not sure what a wild life corridor is, but it implies that wildlife may be coming off second best. The plan should define the role and status of wildlife and measures to sustain it

Shapley Heath seems to contradict this

3 – it is key and should inform all activities and will be revolutionary

1-yes of course, they are vital for wildlife and Winchfield's character.2-protect all? 3-vital to seeing off Shapley Heath

Ringwood copse and the Woods around Shapley fishing lakes need protection

Yes to all of this! We need to do more

Yes – I value the woodlands and hedgerows and support efforts to sustain them.

Yes to all three points, we need to protect and encourage wildlife and Greenery

1-Yes, 2- not known, 3- support HDC or in its carbon neutral plans is one of the NDP objectives, so yes, it is important. Nothing can be planned as far out as 2037 without taking climate change into account. Particular issues for wildlife will be storms (impact on trees) and flooding

1-yes, 2 -yes the remaining trees on land north of Winchfield court. However Herts tree officer does not share that view, 3- very important

Many of our local hedgerows and mediaeval in origin

It's important to protect existing trees but we should also look into planting new ones. This will protect wild life

Trees are the most important aspect of life in Winchfield

1-yes, valued for visual and wildlife 3-10,000 homes will produce an enormous amount of CO2

Absolutely! Value the nature! Building homes will destroy this!

Land north of Winchfield court is being abused please punish those who are abusing the law

Climate change and environment protection should feature as a high priority

Preserve as much as we can. Protect big old oak trees let it grow naturally

1-yes, 2-all mature trees, 3-vital

## **Housing**

Affordable homes should be provided small developments and for local people

Affordable housing on infill rural sites should be allowed. Such sites should be added to the neighbourhood plan

Empty offices and empty buildings – so many places can be used for homes instead of consent to building

Small amount and in keeping with area

Winchfield should have mix of housing to support all age groups and maintain a multi – generation community, maintaining its green rural character

If we have two – small two-storey houses with character and garden space

Small developments of small houses

Small starter homes only

Infill housing

Small developments, affordable housing, gardens and parking

No more houses in Winchfield

Affordable homes for locals

Avoid housing estates and concentrate on small – infill development

Affordable houses for local people

Small housing developments that are affordable. This replicates national park policy that only those living in the area 3+ years can purchase

Small houses blending with the style of our village

Small developments is key – anything large will over power the village

Exception site should be found for Winchfield residents who need social or shared ownership housing

Small developments only

I am in favour of small, carefully positioned housing which is affordable for local families/individuals

Small scale development only. No to affordable development. We moved here when we could afford it. Life shouldn't be a free ride!

It needs smaller 2/3 bedroom houses for young people and for older people who want to downsize

Why have any other than infill

Very small, if any, additional housing, Hart DC focus should be on Brownfield development

Many local areas such as Alton, Bordon, Farnborough have had massive infrastructure changes regarding, affordable housing, people are using Winchfield as a "get away" feel so don't ruin this with more houses!

We don't need any more housing. As houses are built habitat is lost for ever. Animals need space.

Ideally nor more houses! We live here because we want space and peace. No more housing required

I'm sure we all agree that some additional housing may be required but small scale only!

Only visually in keeping with the area and number wise proportional to maintaining a "rural" "village" feel

There is not a problem with small number of houses that are in character with the rural nature of Winchfield. Definitely not 10,000 Barratt homes!

A small number of sympathetically designed, affordable housing with gardens – as in your vision

No more than two-storey anywhere! I.e. no "town" houses

### **What do you like most about Winchfield?**

The peace and quiet, wonderful walks, big skies, the canal, all our trees, fields, meadows and wildlife for all around to enjoy

Rural, peaceful, open space, friendly, air quality, quality of life

Peace and quiet, shady lanes, natural woodland

Rural nature and people who genuinely want to protect nature/heritage. Quality of life. Great transport link. Protect balance of country living and urban choice on doorstep

Very rural, quiet and with a good community feeling

Friendly people

Peace, no streetlights, leafy lanes, fields

peace, quiet, nature, canal, pleasant countryside, Winchfield Festival, grade 1 listed 12th century church, railway station, sense of community

It's rural setting which has not changed greatly over the centuries

Green lung – countryside is key

The open green fields, the sense of friendliness, the peace and quiet

Open green space, no streetlights, dark nights

Rural nature of village, good community

the community feel, respect for nature, accountability for keeping clear of litter, allowing ecosystems to thrive, rural village, residents loyal to the village, a perfect environment for us to start our family

Its mix of small fields, trees and hedgerows, small roads. Winchfield church and its rural setting

Tranquillity, green-ness, wildlife and nature, community spirit

Semirural, proximity to fleet and Hartley Wintney, residents that care to keep it that way!

Countryside, countryside, countryside. Peace, green, nature, wildlife, little traffic, neighbours

Community-based rural village with good transport connections

Countryside, village life

Close knit rural community

Countryside and village life

Countryside and nature

Rural nature, historic and natural environment combined, first “real” countryside en route from London

Rural, peaceful but not isolated

Open, rural, peaceful essential for mental and general well-being. A small oasis away from towns

Countryside and peace, but connected

Rural peace and quiet. Nothing to attract jobs and trouble

We have lived here for 28 years and enjoy the ambience. We do not need any more houses. We enjoy the freedom to walk and to see all the wildlife

Rural location, community spirit, wildlife habitat, good transport connections

The peace and calm in the evenings

The peace, the silence, the sense of community, green space and slow pace

Small rural community originally based on agriculture, that acts as a green lung of activity and space for many communities

Greenery, canal walks, country feel, local pub, feelgood factor!

No streetlights, peace, tranquillity, trees, bushes, people, limited traffic, heritage, walks, fields, country life, no chance, canal, chilled vibe, countryside

### **What do you like least about Winchfield?**

Roads are unable to take all the traffic, constant flooding, cars travel too fast for road type, lack of visible policing

Traffic problems increasing, we need more calming and speed limits to be imposed

Speeding traffic, nowhere for local young people to live

No facilities like a bus and village shop, as you get older, but still the best place to live

Traffic – speed limits are too high, flooding – ditches not cleared

Speeding vehicles using the Hurst as a rat run

Speed of traffic, need to lower speed limits and active enforcement, drivers need to show greater awareness of the environment

Traffic – oversized lorries cutting through, Chelsea tractors speeding down the lanes

Speed on the roads

Lack of village shop!

The speed and size of cars/lorries along the Odiham road and I were rural road system. No real heart of the village, no village shop/school

Drivers lack of consideration when rushing to/from the railway commute

The threat of unnecessary over development is very unsettling

More and more visitors, increasing through traffic, constant threat of huge housing developments

The thought of it becoming a Town

Speed of traffic along B3016 – 50 mph is too high. Lack of centre or gathering place, could pubs diversify

The traffic that races through Bagwell Lane

Proposed change without respect and value for existing inhabitants

The creeping suburbanisation e.g. the eyesore entrance to the BMX track/allotments beside the rail bridge in pale Lane

The threat of Shapley Heath!

The idea of huge development ruining the positives! Maybe a small farm shop?

Increasing road traffic. Ugly developments by HDC e.g. the entry to Edenbrook from pale Lane, which looks positively industrial, as a minimum couldn't the metal frame entrance have been coloured green or brown?

M3, speed on all roads

Nothing – it's all lovely

The speed of traffic along the Hurst in the mornings at 7 to 8 and evenings 5 to 7

Too dispersed with no clear centre, no village shop, little industry

Traffic issues are increasing, lack of pavements, feels vulnerable to development

Rat run traffic, speed of traffic

Speed of through traffic, susceptible to flooding, no bus service, a local corner shop would be nice

Very little

Speeding traffic especially in the lanes, potholes in roads, vandalism of curbs/verges by HGVs in Beauclerk Green entrance, litter

The threat of Shapley Heath

Danger of Shapley Heath

Very busy through road!

### **What are the top 3 issues that concern you?**

Shapley Heath, the Council stick by their headline about climate change as number one priority – bonkers

If Shapley Heath is built, the small roads/lanes will not cope with the extra traffic, awful!

Shapley Heath is a big concern plus the traffic that speed through the lanes

Shapley Heath town

1-the totally unnecessary Shapley Heath development, 2-traffic and speeds 3-flooding

Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath

Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath

Shapley Heath, as above, and again!

Lack of proper development plan allowing harmless and sustainable housing. Neighbourhood plan should include sites for future development to avoid Shapley Heath like threats

SHGV, SHGV, SHGV,

Shapley Heath development, lack of accountability for HDC, decline of Fleet town centre

Hart Council, Shapley Heath, lack of Fleet development/re-invigoration

Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath

Shapley development, increased flooding, Shapley development

Shapley Heath is utterly unnecessary, Fleet town centre needs the money spent to stop decline and rejuvenate

The threat of Shapley Heath development, which would ruin the countryside, especially as there is no need for 5000 to 10,000 extra houses

Hart Council, Shapley Heath, the destruction of countryside and heritage (once it's gone, it's gone forever!)

The ongoing threat to wildlife and the green environment from development in particular, increased traffic, new government planning legislation. The "greying" of Winchfield its population continues to age. The Shapley Heath GC and the lack of any realistic concern by HDC regarding local opinion

That it becomes the dumping ground for building because Hart won't revitalise Fleet town centre. Rubbish strewn along the lanes. Shapley Heath development

The total destruction of Winchfield caused by Shapley Heath

Shapley Heath. Council policies. Flooding

SHGV. SHGV. Land north of Winchfield court

Shapley Heath. Flooding. Canal lack of common sense!

Future large developments spoiling the area. A decline in biodiversity from lack of care in the area/litter and too much traffic on the road and on water

Threat of over development and loss of rural character. Coalescence with Hook/Fleet/Hartley Wintney

Shapley Heath constant threat, traffic, Winchfield is a green lung in this area

Shapley Heath threat, Shapley Heath threat, Shapley Heath threat

Additional buildings, over development loss of Greenery

Like so many others – Shapley

Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath

Shapley Heath, times three

Housing development, too much traffic, antisocial behaviour

The threat of Shapley Heath, and again and again

The threat of Shapley Heath, again, and again

SHG and HDC attitude to Winchfield residents. Traffic. Antisocial behaviour

Shapley Heath, again and again

Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath, Shapley Heath

Shapley Heath will destroy Winchfield

Shapley Heath

Shapley Heath

**What kind of place would you like Winchfield to be in 25 years' time?**

Very much like we already have

Similar to now, sensible, small developments only

I won't be here but I would like it to stay as a rural village

I will not be here, but I hope my grandchildren will enjoy it as much as I do

If it's not broken don't fix it, same as now!

Not a lot different – a few small really affordable houses – simple and attractive to all

As per WPC vision statement

Allow small-scale housing developments to enable the village to grow and keep young people living here, but retain the rural feel

as described in WPC vision statement rural setting, protected heritage something our future generations can experience, families born and bred staying

As now! Rural, sympathetic development

Same character, which could be maintained with good development,

Similar environment, sympathetically maintaining heritage

Not too different to what it is in 2021

Same as it is now

A flourishing village community that has moved with the times e.g. for fibre broadband, but retains its rural character and respects its natural environment

Very much as is now but with less traffic will stop more community spirit

Quiet, peaceful, green. No more car/van/lorries than currently. More use of cycling and walking. Vibrant community. More young people

As it is now. Green, peaceful, rural, agricultural. And the oasis away from the towns

Rural still, a more balanced population age wise, still with the same community spirit which is in evidence today

Not much different than now, still recognisable as a rural village

Much as now, plus some well placed, hidden affordable homes

Hopefully just the same so future generations can also enjoy

No change ideally!

Little change

Very similar to today

Improve roads. Better and new access areas to the canal. Well managed and cared for countryside

Much as now. Some small houses both social and private sector affordable. All to be well designed and local character and screened by tree planting

Just like today why change perfection no significant change,

Same as now same – simple

Rural

Exactly as it is now

## **SHGV**

Very happy to support you in fighting SHGV

Happy to support

Anything to preserve our beautiful home for future generations

SHGC does not serve the community, it does not protect the environment, so why do it?

SHGC would wipe out Winchfield as we know and love it. Happy to support as much as we can

Provides a fact based approach to local housing requirement rather than fulfil SHGC or HDC intent to construct a not required town